

Today we celebrate the single most important event in human history – bar none.

More important than God saying, “Let there be light,” more important than God creating man in His own image, more important than God delivering His people from Egyptian bondage, more important, even then, God sending His Son, is God vindicating and confirming His Son’s completed work on behalf of mankind by Resurrecting Him from the dead. That’s what we celebrate today... The single greatest event of all time.

The Bodily Resurrection of Jesus proved beyond a shadow of a doubt that God exists, that God created, that God cares, that God Saves.

God the Father Saves mere human mortals into right relationship with Him through God the Word, Jesus Christ, Whom He raised bodily, physically, corporally, literally, from the dead by the power of God the Holy Spirit, which is to His eternal glory. Give Him thanks and praise.

Because of Jesus... The Word, sent by the Father in the power of the Holy Spirit... We are here. Every other

church in the valley, and perhaps in the world, will have a very short, very basic, and very pleasant sermonette today proclaiming the joy of the Resurrection. I want to give you more than that.

That, my friends, is the entirely unique Holy Trinity of Biblical Christian Belief in combined action to secure the rescue of man.

The Trinity is One, and Only One, True Creator God in three perfectly harmonious unified and yet individually distinct eternal beings.

To our feeble human minds, it seems impossible, it seems confusing, it seems like a contradiction. It is difficult for us, given our extremely limited knowledge and experience, to grasp this most basic concept. Indeed, it is challenging for us to comprehend any of the most rudimentary and fundamental aspects of God.

And why wouldn't it be challenging? Given the fact that God literally spoke the universe into existence, why would we ever think that He would be easy for us to comprehend, let alone explain in human terms? How silly.

We struggle to understand even the most basic concepts of the world around us when it is outside of our experience. Most of us hear the term quantum mechanics and immediately tune out. Our problem is that we have no experience interacting on the subatomic scale. We cannot fathom how and why quarks and leptons behave the way that they do because we have never been the size of a quark or lepton. If we could shrink ourselves down to that scale the whole thing would become instantly obvious.

Similarly, we cannot fathom the complexities of God because no one has ever seen God (John 1:18, 6:46, etc.). None of us have any experience interacting on the God scale.

God is a Being in the truest sense of the word. Someone Who is, rather than someone or something that is always becoming. God unlike us and every other thing in the universe, exists... as He is... He doesn't change, evolve, or become; He simply is.

The basic takeaway from that is that God is both infinite and He is immutable. Infinite, as in, He is not bound by space, or by matter, or by time, which means

that God is outside of, and yet, He permeates all of physical reality (Ephesians 4:6).

He knows exactly how and why quarks and leptons behave the way they do, not just because He created them, but because He exists on their scale, as well as on our scale, as well as on a universal scale, as well as on His Own unfathomable scale.

If we take just the aspect of time, linear time, as we experience it, one second bleeding into the next second, seemingly uninterrupted, invariable, and without end, we must recognize that it is a construct, created by God, as a necessary component of the physical universe. Nothing more than that.

It means that while God permeates all time, He Himself is outside of and entirely unaffected by time. God has no beginning – He always was, and God has no ending – He always will be. He is not a time-traveler, He is unbound by time and as part of that He is quite literally in contact with all of time, with every second of the totality of the time scale, simultaneously.

Biblically speaking, “God is eternal” (Genesis 21:33. etc.). He is from “everlasting to everlasting” (Psalm

90:2, etc.) And He “alone is immortal” (I Timothy 6:16, etc.).

The Book of Revelation repeatedly puts it this way, as both God the Father, and God the Son declare, “I am the Alpha and the Omega (the Beginning and the End).” The God, “Who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty” (Revelation 1:4, 1:8, 1:17, 4:8, 16:5, 21:6, 22:13). Life that is eternal, without any beginning and without any end, is a concept that we struggle to grasp, because we have no experience with it.

Pure perfect timeless immortality implies immutability, as I said. Immutability means the absolute permanence and changelessness of His pure existence. God is both unchanging and unchangeable. He has always been perfect, and if He changed, He would no longer be perfect.

In Biblical terms we see where Moses asked God Who He was and “God said to Moses, (אֶהְיֶה אֲשֶׁר אֶהְיֶה) (ě-hě-yěh ä-shěř ě-hě-yěh) “I AM WHO I AM” (Exodus 3:14-16).

אֶהְיֶה אֲשֶׁר אֶהְיֶה becomes יְהוָה (yäh-wěh), the covenantal name of Almighty God (the vowels are for Adonai, meaning Lord, not for the Tetragrammaton YHWH). Roughly speaking, it is the Hebrew verb “to be,” the verb to exist. “I AM that which I AM, I exist,” period. “I AM the great I AM.” That is the descriptive name of God.

Jesus repeatedly declared that He was the Great “I AM” as in John 8:58, Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am.” You may not think that Jesus was declaring Himself God in the flesh, but His claim wasn’t lost on the Jewish religious experts who heard His words. The very next verse has them immediately picking up stones to kill Him for blasphemy. And a blasphemy of the highest order it was... Unless, of course, it was true.

Another example among many comes in John 14:6 where Jesus said, “I am (I AM that which I AM, I exist as) the (only) way, and the (absolute) truth (with a capital “T”), and the (eternal) life; no one (no one at all, under any circumstances at all) comes to the (Heavenly) Father except through Me” (John 14:6).

I AM means exactly what the Bible declares about Jesus in Hebrews 13:8, “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today, and forever.”

Perfect immutability is a difficult concept for us to understand because, as with infinity, we have no experience with it in our physical life.

What we do have as experience in our life is only the opposite, only everything in constant flux, only everything endlessly changing, only everything continually becoming. As the ancient Greek philosopher Heraclitus said, “You can never step into the same river twice.” The river flows and so is always changing from moment to moment.

In the same way we strain to comprehend the concept of the Trinity. Very few people have a good handle on this Biblical, as well as logically rational, Truth.

Some folks, like Jews, Muslims, Mormons, Jehovah’s Witnesses, Oneness Pentecostals, Christadelphians, Unitarians, Universalists, and Christian Scientists, to name just a few, find the Trinity too complicated to be possible. They dismiss it out of hand because they cannot easily understand and articulate the concept.

Again, should we expect that the One Who Created and “Sustains all things by the word of His power” (Hebrews 1:3) would be simple to comprehend and explain?

God has always, and will always, exist, period. He created everything, both natural and supernatural, from His Own personal energy, period.

The Bible confirms that in the first words that Moses recorded. Genesis 1:1, opens with the Hebrew word, בְּרָאשִׁית (bě-řā-shēt). There wasn't even pitch black until God spoke a Word.

Long before Jesus was born it was translated into Greek as 'Ev ἀρχῇ (ěň äř-ĉā). Both mean exactly the same thing in context. Both mean, not some point in time before God created, but the reality, or realm, before time even existed. In the non-time, before God created time as a consequence of Him creating space, as a consequence of Him creating matter. Before there was anything recognizable to us, God created.

That second word in the Hebrew Bible is בָּרָא (bä-řä). It is a word only ever used for the activity of God, and it



means to create from nothing. God creates; mankind makes... or we could say mankind recreates, in the sense that we rearrange what already exists to make something different. The distinction is important.

The Bible declares in Hebrews 11:3, that those with faith are able to “understand that the entire universe was formed at God’s command, that what we now see did not come from anything that can be seen.” Another translation puts it this way, “we understand that the universe was created through a spoken word of God, so that what is seen did not come into being out of existing phenomena.”

In plain English, God Who is not physical, created everything that is physical, from the non-physical, from nothing that had previously existed. He created from Himself, from His Own resources and energy, by speaking it into existence. Galaxy after galaxy by the billions.

From the Will of God the Father, through the Word of God the Son, propelled by the Breath of God the Spirit, all things that have ever come into being, came into being (John 1:3), and are held together as Psalm 33:6 poetically confirms “by the word of the Lord the

heavens were made, And by the breath of His mouth all their lights.”

And as we see in Colossians chapter 1, where the Bible declares that in Christ Jesus the Son, “all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. 17He is before all things, and in him all things hold together” (Colossians 1:15–20).

We could talk about the mechanism by which God did that, but the far more interesting question is why He did that. Why did God choose to create anything in the first place?

I John 4:8b–10a, “God is love.” God proved His love for us when He sent His One and Only Son into the world. He sent Him so we could receive life through him. He sent His Son to give His life to pay for our sins. Our sins that separate us from God. Our sins that we cannot undo or fix.

Almighty God chose to create you and me because His unchangeable character is that of selfless, self-sacrificing love. He chose to create us to share Himself

with the few of us who demonstrate in this life that we want to spend all of eternity with Him.

“God is One.” That’s the Jewish Shema. God is One because the three individual Beings of God are so full of absolute Agapê love that they happily sacrifice any desire to do their own independent thing, to speak their own autonomous mind, to think their own individual thoughts... Instead, in favor of perfect harmonious unity, they choose to be One with each other.

There is never any hint of dissention, divergence, or disunity. In that perfect love there can be no fear at all. There can be no friction due to selfish desire. There can be no tears, no death, no sadness, no grief, and no pain. God is a perfectly relational Being Who has personally sacrificed in order for you to join Him forever.

God wanted to share that eternal life together with someone willing, and in order to do so He was willing to create an entire universe replete with galaxies, stars, earth, moon, majestic mountains, awe inspiring vistas, raging rivers, powerful oceans and life, abundant life, along with you and me.

God wanted to share Himself with us and to do so He was willing to take on flesh and dwell among us, live a perfectly sinless life as a human, suffer and die on a Cross, paying the sin debt that no person could ever pay. He “Who knew no sin, became sin, so that we might become righteous in Him” (II Corinthians 5:21).

The proof that Jesus of Nazareth, born in Bethlehem in about 5 B.C., murdered in Jerusalem in about 30 A.D., was the Word of Almighty God in human form is that on the Third Day, He rose again... Three days in the grave He was bodily raised from the dead.

The Apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthian Christians, that he passed on to them what he himself received from Jesus.

And the most important part of it all? Is that Christ Jesus died for our sins, just as Scripture said he would. He was buried. He was raised from the dead on the third day, just as Scripture said he would be. He appeared to Peter. Then he appeared to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than 500 believers at the same time. Most of them are still living. But some have since died. He appeared to James. Then he

appeared to all the apostles. Last of all, he also appeared to me (I Corinthians chapter 15).

Today we've talked about the basic nature and character of God and my question is this... For the One Who quite literally spoke light into existence, Who spoke the entire universe into existence, Who spoke life into existence... Is there anything too difficult for Him? According to the Bible there isn't (Jeremiah 32:17).

Would it be too difficult for God to send the Word to dwell among us as one of us? Would it be too difficult for Him to experience everything that we experience without sinning? Would it be too difficult to sacrifice Himself for us who cannot seem to manage the no sinning thing?

Would it be too difficult for God to raise Jesus from the dead? Would it be too difficult for Him to appear to hundreds of people over a 40-day period and then ascend into Heaven? Would it be too difficult for Him to inspire men to record what He wanted recorded and then preserve what He wanted preserved for 2,000 years?

Would it be too difficult for God to extend His love to you? Just what is it that you think would be too difficult for God?

If you have embraced God's love for you as evidenced by your love for and obedience to Him, you are welcome to share Communion with the saints who are perfectly clean and righteous in Christ Jesus.